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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/518,677	12/17/2004	Yoshiyuki Kajiwara	7217/72093	2677
530	7590 09/14/2006		EXAMINER	
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,			SNIEZEK, ANDREW L	
	Z & MENTLIK		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
600 SOUTH AVENUE WEST WESTFIELD, NJ 07090			2627	
	•		DATE MAILED: 09/14/200	6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summers	10/518,677	KAJIWARA ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Andrew L. Sniezek	2627				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 16(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time Till apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	N. nely filed the mailing date of this communication. D. (35 U.S.C. § 133)				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 Ju	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>26 June 2006</u> .					
_	action is non-final.					
,	ce this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is					
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims						
. 4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>2-4 and 6-8</u> is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6) ☐ Claim(s) <u>2-4 and 6-8</u> is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.					
Application Papers	·	•				
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine	-					
10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 26 June 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correcti		• •				
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign	priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a))-(d) or (f).				
a) All b) Some * c) None of:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No						
3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior		·				
application from the International Bureau	ı (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).					
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list	of the certified copies not receive	ed.				
Attachment(s)						
1) X Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	· 4) Interview Summary	(PTO-413)				
2) DNotice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da	ate				
3) ☑ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/22/0≰ 5) ☑ Notice of Informal Patent Application 6) ☑ Other:						
	o/					

Application/Control Number: 10/518,677

Art Unit: 2627

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following action is taken in view of the amendment filed 6/6/06.

Drawings

2. The drawings were received on 6/26/06. These drawings are acceptable to the examiner.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed 5/22/06 has been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
- 6. Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants admitted prior art (figure 2) in view of Vis (U.S. Patent 7,012,772).

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Re claim 2: Applicants admitted prior art teaches in figure 2 a signal processing apparatus including an analog filter (121), a phase interpolation means (124) and a phase locked loop means (125) as set forth in claim 2. This admitted prior however uses a single digital equalizing filter instead of the first filter for linear signals and a second filter for non-linear signals as set forth. Such a filter arrangement is well known in the art as taught by Vis (figure 3) so that any distortions that are introduced due to a non-linear response of a MR head are compensated. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to replace the single filter arrangement as taught by applicants admitted prior art with a dual filter arrangement as taught by Vis so that any distortions that are introduced due to a non-linear response of a MR head are compensated.

Re claim 3: See Vis (column 4, lines 32-36) which would have obviously been used to compensate for non-linear responses.

Re claim 4: see prior art figure 2, element (127)

Re claims 6-8: Method claims 6-8 are drawn to the method of using the corresponding apparatus claimed in claims 2-4. Therefore method claims 6-8 correspond to apparatus claims 2-4 and are rejected for the same reasons of anticipation (obviousness) as used above.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew L. Sniezek whose telephone number is 571-272-7563. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andrew L. Sniezek Primary Examiner Art Unit 2627

A.L.S. 9/7/06

Application No.: 10/518,677 Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1080

IN THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1 and 2 were amended to include the legend --PRIOR ART--.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets